



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4302

July 21, 2010

The Honorable Howard Berman
Chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Berman,

Due to recent facts that have come to light regarding the prisoner-transfer agreement of Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi, we would like to request an immediate investigation of the circumstances surrounding this release by the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

As you know, Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi is the only person ever convicted for the 1988 Lockerbie airliner bombing over Scotland. This mass murder resulted in the deaths of 270 individuals, including 189 American citizens. In August of last year, the Scottish courts ruled to release Mr. Megrahi after doctors advised the government that he was likely to die within months of prostate cancer. However, today this terrorist remains alive and well in Libya.

It has recently come to light that there are indications BP lobbied the British government for al-Megrahi's inclusion in a prisoner transfer agreement with Libya in order to facilitate their \$900 million oil-and-gas exploration deal off Libya's coast. Former British Justice minister, Jack Straw, has admitted that the BP deal was a consideration in his review of the case. It has also been alleged that the British government was in contact with Scottish officials overseeing al-Megrahi's release, and that British officials indicated that his release would be beneficial to British commercial interests.

The prospect that a corporation successfully lobbied the British government to release a convicted mass murderer in order to secure commercial interests is an affront to justice and the rule of law. The House Foreign Affairs Committee owes it to the 189 Americans killed in this terrorist attack to immediately launch a full investigation into this matter.

Sincerely,

TED POE
Member of Congress

MICHAEL MCCAUL
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, *Ranking Member*
House Committee on Foreign Affairs

The Honorable Brad Sherman, *Chairman*
Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade
House Committee on Foreign Affairs

The Honorable Ed Royce, *Ranking Member*
Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade
House Committee on Foreign Affairs